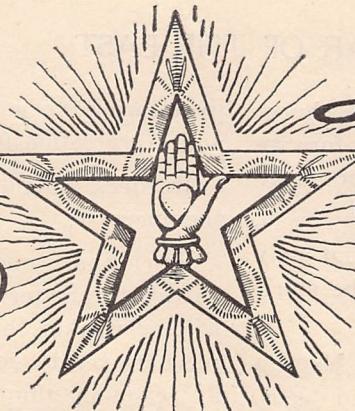


# STAR OF THE EAST



*A New Thought Journal issued monthly for the help of self and others by the practice of systematic concentration of mind; in Unity with the Universal Soul*

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## Reflections on the Advent of the New Year.

"A new year," which in fact is not new but the continuation of the same evolution and its action of the past, does bring to our limited powers of thinking the suggestion of something different from the past, and we see it so on account of the ideas which we have formed of that life is made into divisions; therefore we ask ourselves, "what shall the harvest be in the new year?" and we pray for greater accumulations of favors from God than we have had although we have more than we really have deserved because of our unwillingness to share what joy we have with our brother.

There is no doubt but we shall observe greater action everywhere in days which are before us, and we will see that the struggles in the elements which has prevailed during the past twelve months will be very much increased and that the danger to tangible things will be greater than before. We have seen great destruction both on water and land, as well as by fires, and we have noted the sacrifices of human life which such destructions has claimed, and we have asked ourselves "why is it? How can God allow this to be?" and we do not realize that such is the means by which the law makes all things seen and unseen take part in the action for its evolution.

By this same law we have witnessed the impour to our shores of our brothers from the tropics, as we never did before and we try to drive him away from us which is just as impossible as it is for us to stop the great chaos among the stars to have their effect upon us, because it is in the Law that by unity all things shall unfold and therefore it is in the purpose that we come in contact with all races and nationalities as in that wise we learn from them, and they need the knowledge which we have. The past year has increased the turmoil both in this and other expressions of human existence and it will continue because the time has come when full liberty must come to every race as its rights.

The only way for changes and developments of man and things is disturbance by the change of old positions and we can not expect such actions without their effect upon us. This year the Element of fire will be specially active and let every one be careful and thoughtful in the handling of things to which it is attracted, such as Gasoline, Kerosene, powders and firearms, as well as other kinds of explosives, and let my warning be heard by mothers who have children not to allow them to handle or be near fire alone as this will be particularly active this year.

I do not say this to cause fear in advance, but to keep those who are habitually thoughtless to concentrate their minds so that they know what they are doing.

Many lives have been sacrificed because of lack of concentrated thought both on land and sea, as those who hold responsible positions as watchers have had their thoughts on other objects than those which they have to handle, and disaster has taken place. Looking back upon the occurrences which have taken place we should learn that where there is active and concentrated thought there is safety under all circumstances.

It is true that when we hold our minds upon things which concerns the body we become so dull that we can not think orderly and in this wise we draw to us disaster no matter how thoughtful others are who are around us. It is our own mind developed in higher channels which can avoid dangers for us, but one suffer for the other in this wise and it behoves all to look beyond the tangible in order to see where our salvation is to be had.

We must wake up to the knowledge that what happens are for a great purpose and that the everlasting growth is the purpose, but while we are in the struggle we are wise if we adopt the best method by which to make it teach us the greatest lesson.

Oh that the race could see that the Law first demands of us what we expect of others and that we will have to look for that in vain which we do not give to others.

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The race has struggled because of its selfishness and until we see that we must practice first before we can have the fruits of our labors we will not have our hopes fulfilled.

The race thinks nothing of its brother but only lives for self and thus the realizations of the spirit within can not come to us.

This year we will learn (I hope) that we **have in proportion** to what we **give** both in words and deeds, as it must be clear to us some time that we will have as much as we give, because such as the object is which we have in view such will the termination become.

What is your resolutions for the year which we have begun? What are your highest aspirations? How much of your time, means, and power of thought will you give towards helping to free your brother from bondage? Are you ready to say, "Oh, world, such as I have such I give unto thee?" if so, then you have already come to the realization that developments are had by **exchange of all things**.

If, to the contrary, your ambition is but for the accumulation of wealth, you might gain some, but you will find that you can not keep it long as this year will be but a continuation of the past three months of 1907, there will be "Booms" to result in panics, there will be mills closing one after another, with strike violence and all kinds of strifes. The man with money will not be safe anywhere and that is as it should be, as the wealth of the few is stolen from the masses and the imposed restrictions as it now is enforced in India, is made in order that those who live in, and by, wrongdoing to their fellowman might not be disturbed, but, it can last so long only, and the terrible retribution must come which will claim thousands of human lives.

Be it known that the race has gone onward towards its own destruction by becoming more and more selfish, and it can not but end in turmoil and the shedding of blood. "Poor America."

I do not wish it understood that I write this as prophecy, but it is written for the purpose of our reflections upon the past thoughts, deeds, intentions and ambitions, and after we have gone over the past we can not come to any other conclusion than that we have called upon us all that which will happen this, and the following years.

**Large cities** will be in danger by water, fires and earthquakes, and catastrophies on land and water and it should not surprise anyone to hear that the mighty ocean has swallowed places like New York and Boston, etc., as by year and month we are rushing onward to the moment when this is certain to take place, and it will come so quick and unexpected that there will be no time for warning. Obsessions will be seen among children as well as the adults, because the elementals are stronger in hovering around us than ever before, and as we are only concerned by what to eat and

drink we have not developed that which is higher and a protection for such.

Murders, suicides and insanity we will see on the increase.

Worldliness and crimes among the clergy will be seen to greater degree than before and the church will be weaker than she has ever been because her servants try to compel the people to go to church by removing things from the communal use which has more the tendency to keep the masses good than not, and instead of allowing theaters to be open on Sundays, she is now inaugurating theaters in form of games and other pastimes, and last but not least she is inviting young men to smoke cigarettes and cigars, while the ministers are preaching their empty creed. Some of the ministers will array themselves in "armors" and other attractions in order to hold the people and make them come to church. This shows the power of spirituality and real christian life is not in the church, and it also shows that the preachers instead of growing in wisdom are growing in selfishness, ambitions, worldliness and commerciality, for if a minister is offered larger salary than what he has he will leave his congregation and say, "That he is sent by the command of God," when in fact he is leaving because he receives a larger sum of money.

Thus we see that the church has lost her salt, whose savor Christ said should keep the people sound spiritually, and she has lowered herself to the plane where she makes one with weaklings and habituates.

Think of the sight, young and old men sitting in a church smoking cigars, cigarettes and pipes, while the minister puts a long hypocritical Godly look on his face and in his own weakness and lack of holiness tries to teach his congregation to be holy.

If there ever was a spectacle to turn a thinking public away from the church it will be to see the church filled with cigar smoke and the youth to be encouraged by the minister to indulge in a habit which has turned the reason of thousands of young men and made them criminals, for hand in hand with smoking goes other habits unless judgment prevents it, but I am inclined to believe that young men who smoke are drawn amongst company which is not always elevating.

We read lately in the daily press that one of the greatest of churches in New York "has a minister who invites smokers to sit and smoke in the church while he preaches his sermon," and another dresses himself in costumes in order to draw the people to his church. God help such men who undertake to save souls for the purpose of earning their bread and butter one can not expect more of them than they are giving as they know nothing of a higher life than selves. This is the reason why the church cannot satisfy the hunger of the soul.

This will prove the undoing of the church sooner than otherwise for it will show the masses the weak-

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ness of such religion where the "house of God(?)'" has been made a smoking room and a billiard parlor.

Ministers will be found committing crimes against chastity as well as in other ways, and more than ever before they will fall deeper and deeper as times goes on.

The higher power and spirituality will be poured over the people this year as well as in time to come, and there will spring up all kinds of strange movements but the Universal study of life will become known very extensively and greater and greater, will be the demonstration of the awakening among the masses. Let us rise and live in our real selves, and know that there is no "old or new," but a constant going forward to higher realization that what we sow we reap.

### Lesson in Concentration for the Children.

This lesson we wish to devote to our children, and I am anxious to impress upon all who are awake to the truth that it is mind which makes us what we are to devote a few moments each day to send good thoughts and love to the little children who have no one to teach them the true way by which to find God within them, they are conceived and born in ignorance and selfishness and they have to suffer for the sins of their parents. The children are more exposed to the vibrations of darkness today than they ever were and there is nothing to countermand the effect which such vibrations has upon them and thus they go lower and lower into the chaos which is on an increase all the time.

Let us join together and devote this month at least to the sending out of our whole soul, our love, our strength, and wisdom to them and this will effect them more than we can realize.

We live in a time when the Elementals hover around **them** in particular, and cause them to fall into snares from which they can not rise without help, therefore let us not forget them in our prayers but hold them in your hearts and let God within you send quickening to the power of God in them and thus they will have protection.

You, my friends who are parents, you should not forget that you will be called upon by the souls who have chosen your children as bodies to answer for each word you are speaking which does not have the good impression upon them it should have, and your life becomes the example which they will remember and be influenced by. You people who live an unheasted life in the midst of your children you make "Karma" for yourself which is certain to give you woe after you leave your forms.

Chastity is the Key to all unfoldment, and you who violate that law and bear offspring under such conditions may God help you to see your sins and begin to rectify while you are here what you have done wrong in this and other ways that you might experience the peace which your souls are seeking. We will hold our minds upon the Divine Light and **power** for the little darlings whom are running the

streets and have no one to take care of them, every Wednesday and Friday. We will also hold for all little children in India who are wanting for **food** and **comfort** we will meet every day between 5 and 7 a. m. for this and next month.

### Greetings to All Pilgrims.

Beloved:

This year we will meet at the shrine of devotion more often than we have before and we will realize that we are meeting with very soul who has become conscious of the union with all, our bodies are but the covering and we should not think of it when we pave space, as it is in no way an obstacle to the soul, because it is out of limitation and can be wheresoever it is attracted. We shall travel upon Planets and their Kingdoms and we will draw to the centers where our bodies sojourn the higher power, and it will remove from us things which are in the way for the full realization of ourselves as Universal souls. Let us be wise and live within ourselves and say nothing to the world of things which it does not understand. We will share with one another life in its fullness, and drink from the same Goblet which has in it the power from which the lesson of brotherly love is taught.

We burn our incense of individual surrender to a full devotion to the help of others, and we meet in the sanctuary of our own souls where upon the altars we place our "chalice of brotherly joy." Oh, pilgrims, thou souls who are constantly wandering from one mount of understand to the other, I am with thee, I give myself to thy service and I rejoice for the quickening within to the knowledge that there are no prisons, but full freedom. In the exalted company with thee we shall journey space and be together for counsel upon the experiences which we have, how to most help the race to greater freedom.

Read thy lessons in the book of life, and let thy soul interpret them in order that the tangible self become permeated with the wisdom which they give. I have spoken to those who can understand what I mean, to the world I speaketh not at this time as it is in sleep and can become awakened but by small degrees. Let it be known that there is nothing **new** or **old**, but the one life; there is no today nor tomorrow, but one life; there is no distance or parting as the one life the one Universe unites all. Give thyself complete, and drink love's Goblet with thy brother and know that thou art one with the Divine.

### Question Box.

Q. Is it true that the world shall come to end in 1908? **E.**

A. The world can not come to an end the way the orthodox people believe, because there is no end to anything, but, there will certainly be many things occur which will make one believe it, as the disturbances in the elements and the great mortality which we will witness this year will be terrible and have a fearful effect upon human life. Noth-

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ing can be destroyed, but all things must change forms and this is done by such calamities and struggles among the race as we will see shortly.

Q. Can we always rely upon our own impressions and act accordingly? **Fanny.**

A. Yes we can, when we first go by ourselves in stillness as then the great Universal soul speaks to us from within, it is the Law that we should listen to the voice within and act upon its direction and thus learn our lessons.

Q. Has the soul more than one affinity? **Alferd.**

A. Everything with which the soul come in contact is attracted by affinity, as well people as things.

Q. How, and where is the soul of people who have become insane? **May.**

A. The soul has been driven from the body by "Elementals," and it is drawn to different things for the gaining experience just like in sleep and death, sometimes they return to the body when restored and sometimes not. Insanity is nothing but Elementals taking possession of the lower mind until it loses its balance.

Q. Why is it that one can not experience more of the higher truth when one desire it so intense? **Olof.**

A. The higher life can not be seen, or heard through the physical except as one can bring it forth by the consciousness which has come to the mind of its existence beyond the tangible, when we wish to **see** or **hear** or know spiritual things physically one has limited oneself to this plane and in such way we can not experience the higher as we must live in the spirit, we must live in the unlimited to experience the higher life.

Q. By what method can we bring ourselves in closer contact with the soul? **Maud.**

A. By retirement into silence, avoiding confusion and the life of the world, as the body must become receptive to the action in the higher.

Q. How can we bring back the knowledge of experiences in our past lives. **A.**

A. By living within, instead of in the external senses, in the soul nothing is forgotten and it is but a matter of realizing this that all experiences as well personal as Universal can become reflected to the physical, as soon as we live more in the spirit so soon shall we know and remember all things.

Q. Please, Sister, tell me through your paper the best method to cure children from the habit of stealing? **Mother.**

A. First teach them the object of life for them, and next teach them the sorrows which they bring upon themselves by being dishonest and the great power which there is in purity of all kinds. Suggest honesty to them when they sleep, and those suggestions will effect them when they are awake, be kind to them, and above all things secure their full confidence, and be their friend at all times and they will not deceive you, thus you will find the countermanding remedy very powerful.

Q. On what plane are people who desire to be loved all the time, petted and have nice things said to them? **Young Girl.**

A. My dear young Sister, such people as those whom you mention in your question, are in bondage.

They think only of self and this selfishness holds them in the narrowness of the physical. True love is not looking for self, but it recognizes everybody else and all things in life. Love can not be called by that name until we have become freed from the self which looks for its own recognition first and last. I have to give you a quotation from the letter which I have just received from a Brother Hindoo. He says regarding Divine love:

See  
Les.

"Love is Divine; it is opposite to bondage and leads to full freedom. Narrowness at heart leads to attachments for persons and things, but true love sees all equal. As love is God and God is all pervading. That which makes preferences for certain persons and things is Maya (illusion). True love means the consciousness of the Universal soul. Until we can realize that man, woman, cat, dog, plants and everything else are but the manifestation of the Universal soul, we can not say that we have realized the meaning of Divine love. The first thing then is to see the union of souls by realizing one's own self. A Hindoo."

Q. What is meant by Temple study? **A Seeker.**

A. Temple study means the retirement in thought from everything pertaining to the material, and turn our thoughts within and thus live in the unlimited and recognize that we are one Universal soul, and in this way we will learn to know our true selves which we can not as long as we expect to realize through the physical senses as they will but hold us confined in the material. In order to know God we must live within.

Q. Shall Jesus come in the sky as our church teaches us? **Bible Student.**

A. Yes. He is coming all the time and there never was a time He did not come. You had better see Him today as He is **within you**. If you do not learn to know Him now you will not know Him after you leave your body, until you have gone through hard experiences. Remember that we make today the "Karma" for tomorrow.

### To Our Temple Students.

Let us say to our Temple students: Conditions this year require that we lay aside books and studies and retire within ourselves three times a week in silent sittings and abandon the thoughts on all outer matters, and **hold the God within**, and thus we will have the knowledge which we can never find through outer lessons, for we must bring the real from within us, or else all our studies have been in vain. I will not speak in this issue of the Book of Prophecy or any other book, but ask you to come with me and let us retire within ourselves in order to learn to live in the real, and not in the external which is Illusion. We shall need to be rooted in our higher selves this year because of the terrible confusion it will bring.

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